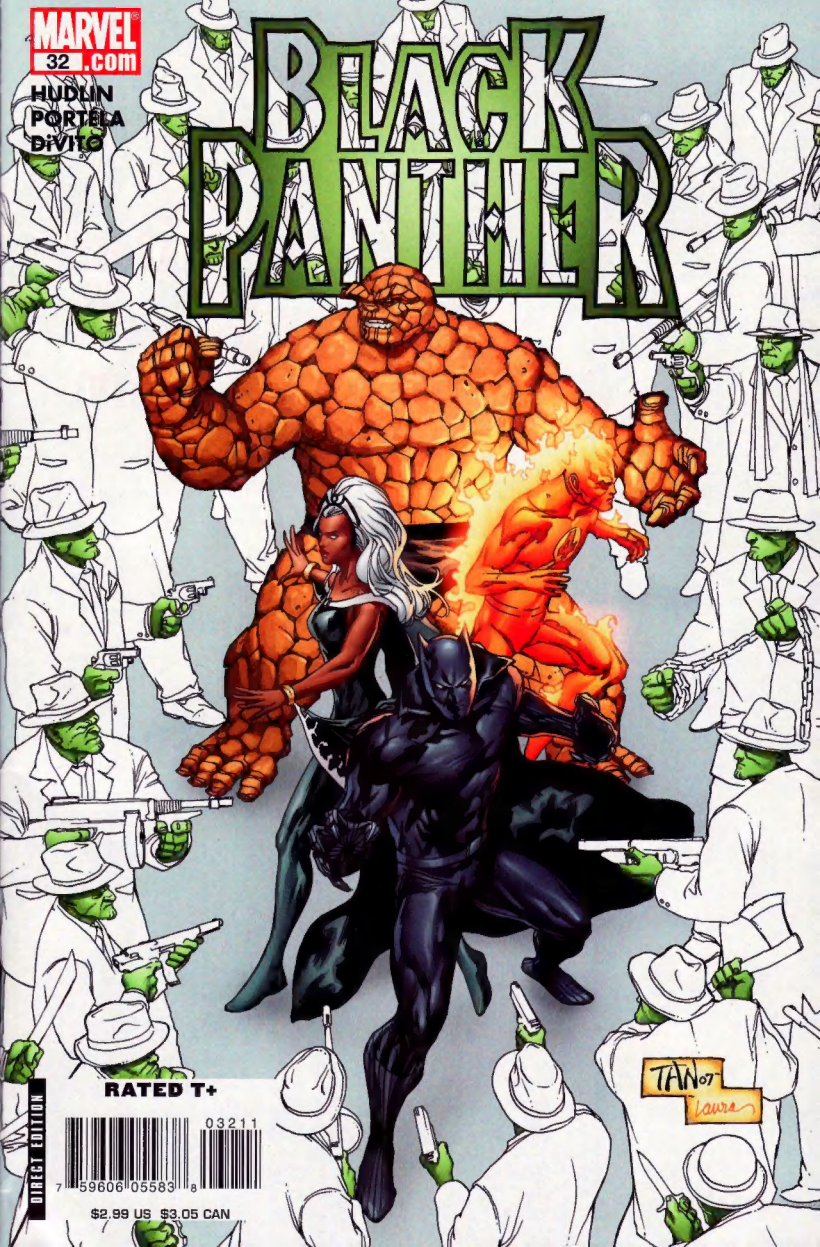
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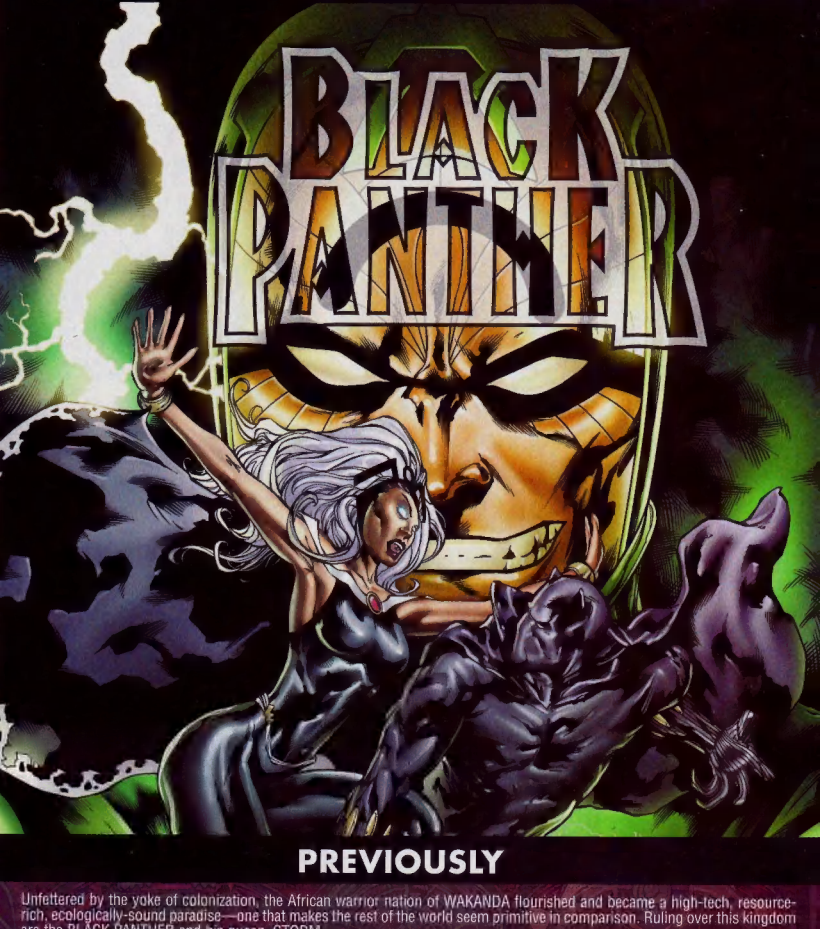


PREVIOUSLY

Unfettered by the yoke of colonization, the African warrior nation of WAKANDA flourished and became a high-tech, resource-rich, ecologically-sound paradise—one that makes the rest of the world seem primitive in comparison. Ruling over this kingdom are the BLACK PANTHER and his queen, STORM.

At the conclusion of America's super hero civil war, T'Challa and Ororo found themselves in desperate straits: on the losing side of the fray, at odds with Wakanda's ruling council, and without an embassy in the United States. However, their luck seemed to change when Reed Richards and Sue Storm offered the couple residence in the Baxter Building and their places in the Fantastic Four.

Desperate to keep a Negative Zone monster who had invaded the Baxter Building from running loose in New York City, T'Challa took a risk and used the unreliable magic of King Solomon's golden frogs to take the fight elsewhere. While the gamble did pay off and the team was able to extract the bug from the Baxter Building, they ended up somewhere far more perilous: on a Skrull homeworld in an alternate reality, one under attack by some familiar-looking zombies. Using the frogs to escape the Zombie Galacti, the team was delivered into the clutches of the Psycho-Man, who attempted to turn the team's worst fears against them. Realizing the frogs may be sentient, malicious beings, the Human Torch decided to try threatening them...which the frogs responded to by teleporting the Fantastic Four into an ambush by gangsters!

BLACK PANTHER (ISSN #1540-8299) **No. 37, January, 2008.** Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2007 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $3.05 in Canada (GST #R125032852) in the direct market and $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R125032852) through the newsstand. Canadian Agreement #40068537. Canadian Agreement #40065297. **Printed in the USA.** Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. $27.99; Canada $37.99; Foreign $39.00. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO BLACK PANTHER, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT, P.O. BOX 110 NEWBURGH, NY 12550. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (845) 457-5629. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com.** ALAN FINE, CEO Marvel Toys & Publishing Divisions and CMO Marvel Entertainment, Inc.; DAVID GABRIEL, Senior VP of Print/Online Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, VP of Business Affairs & E-Marvel Operations; MICHAEL PASCIULLO, VP Merchandising & Communications; JIM BOYLE, VP of Publishing Technology; TOM CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIEL, Managing Editor; SUSAN CRESPI, Production Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvels.com, please contact Mitch Dane, Advertising Director, at mdane@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

EVEN WITH SEVERAL SEVERE WOUNDS, THE CHALLENGER FROM PLANET PLAXUS WILL NOT YIELD! A HAND FOR OUR FIGHTERS TODAY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

GANGSTA LEAN

PART 2 OF 6

REGINALD HUDLIN	FRANCIS PORTELA & ANDREA DiVITO	VAL STAPLES	VC'S CORY PETIT	BILLY TAN & LAURA MARTIN	DANIEL KETCHUM	AXEL ALONSO	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	PENCILS & INKS	COLORS	LETTERS	COVER	ASSISTANT EDITOR	EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

SHEESH, WHOSE IDEA WAS IT TO PUT THE GUY WHO CAN REGENERATE LIMBS IN THE RING WITH THE CHAMP? HE'S BORING ME TO TEARS!!!
AND LOOK AT THAT WEASEL, POOG...HE THINKS HE CAN GET THE DROP ON ME AND TAKE OVER THE FIGHT GAME. I OUGHTA KNOCK HIS HAT OFF RIGHT NOW--
MR. SMALLS, I--WHOA!
BARNSWORTH! DON'T BE SNEAKIN' UP ON A FELLA LIKE THAT! YOU COULD GET HURT THAT WAY!
Y-Y-YES, SIR!
I JUST CAME TO TELL YOU....
YA DON'T SAY!
SADDLE UP, BOYS, WE GOT BUSINESS TO HANDLE!

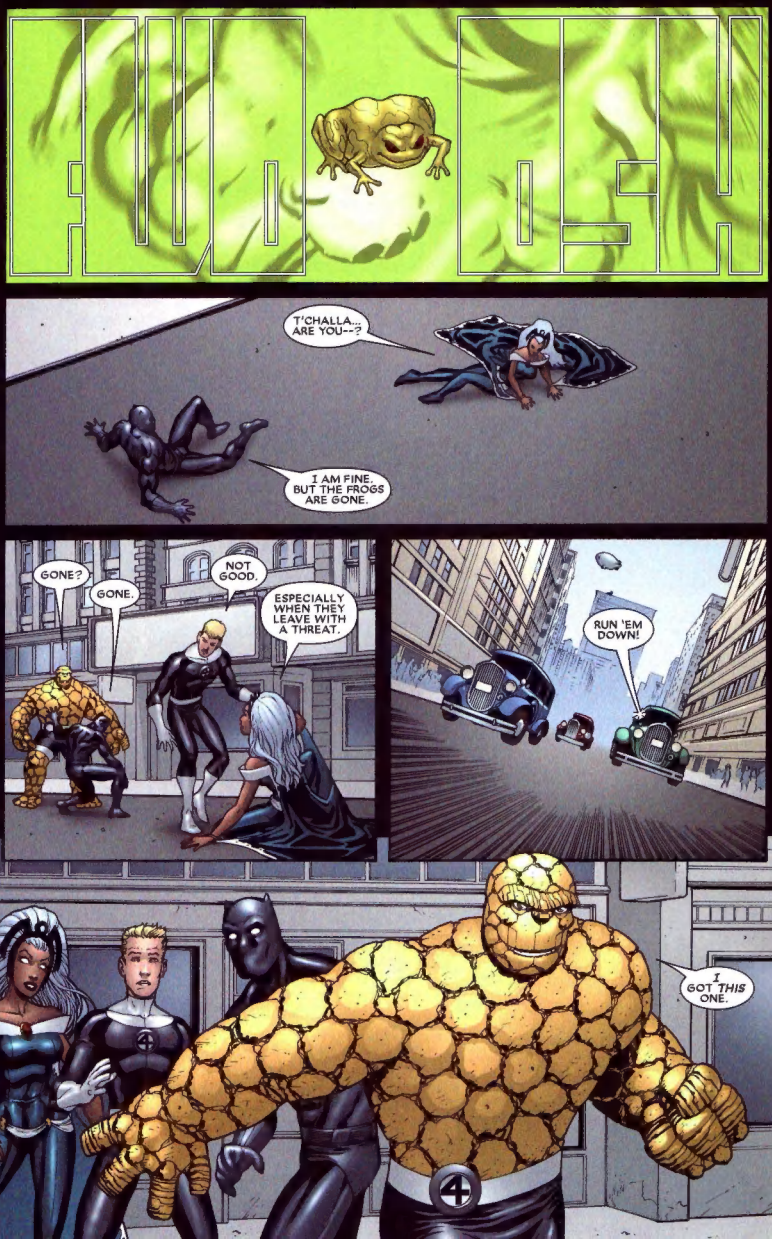
WHERE THE HELL ARE THEY GOING?
PROBABLY CAN'T STAND TO SEE THE FANS BOO THIS LOUSY FIGHT THEY SET UP. CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO TAKE OVER THIS RACKET, BOSS.
MAYBE SOONER THAN YOU THINK... EVERYBODY IN PLACE?
WE GOT THEIR EVERY ROUTE COVERED, POOG.
LOVELY.
YOU SURE IT'S HIM?
ONE-EYED JOE SAYS SO. AND HE USED TO BE A JANITOR IN THE OLD DAYS. HE WASHED OUT HIS STALLS WHEN WE HAD HIM UNDER OUR CONTROL.
47810
THAT ONE-EYED BASTARD BETTER BE RIGHT OR HE'LL LOSE HIS LAST GOOD ONE.
47810

YOU CRAZY? YOU *MUST* BE CRAZY!!!!
YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM OUT HERE LIKE THIS! THIS IS *THE THING!*
CONSIDERING I JUST ROCKED 'EM ALL TO SLEEP, I AIN'T TOO WORRIED, ONE-EYED JOE.
YOU GOT THE *DROP* ON 'EM! NEXT TIME, THEY'LL BE READY FOR YA! THE THING ALONE COULD TAKE THIS WHOLE PLACE DOWN. I *SEEN* HIM DO IT!
YOU DON'T SEE SO GOOD, JOE. SURE IT WAS HIM?
SURE, LAUGH IT UP, YA BIG MAROONS. I'LL SEE HOW HARD YER LAUGHING WHEN HE RIPS UP THE SIDEWALK LIKE CARPET!
LOOK, WHEN THE BIG BOSS GETS HERE, THEY'LL BRING A POWER HARNESS. UNTIL THEN, I GOT THIS... OKAY?

LOOK, IF YOU DON'T... WHOA...
JUST GOT AN ACHE IN MY BONES...LIKE IT'S GONNA RAIN... OR SNOW...
WHAT?
MAN, I HOPE I DROP DEAD BEFORE I END UP A CREEPY OLD FART LIKE YOU--
ZZZZZAAAAP
OH MAN...
...I KNEW IT...

YA GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.
WELL, IF I DO IT, IT'LL BE NASTY. STORM...?
ACTUALLY, I HAVE THIS ONE COVERED.
HUH?
WHAT THE SAM HILL...?
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
WAKANDA DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGY TO DEFEAT FIREARMS CENTURIES AGO.

THIS DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE OUR EARTH. ARE WE EVEN IN THE RIGHT DIMENSION?
DOES ANYONE SEE ANY SIGNS OF WHERE WE ARE?
UH-OH...
...THAT AIN'T A GOOD SIGN...
YANCY ST
WE KNOW YOU UNDERSTAND US...
...AND WE ARE TIRED OF THE GAMES YOU ARE PLAYING. END THIS NONSENSE OR WE WILL DESTROY YOU.
WE'LL SEE WHO IS DESTROYED FIRST.


T'CHALLA... ARE YOU--?
I AM FINE. BUT THE FROGS ARE GONE.
GONE?
GONE.
NOT GOOD.
ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY LEAVE WITH A THREAT.
RUN 'EM DOWN!
I GOT THIS ONE.

ME AND MY FRIENDS--
--ARE TRYING TO TALK HERE!
SLAM
6207
I TOLD 'EM...
MORE EFFECTIVE WEAPONRY WILL BE ARRIVING SOON. WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE.
T'CHARLIE'S RIGHT. I [redacted] HERE BEFORE. AND THESE GUYS MEAN BUSINESS.
I WOULDN'T MIND A LITTLE OF SUE'S INVISIBILITY RIGHT NOW.
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE?
WHERE'S A PHONE? GIMME A, *PHONE*, SUMBODY! FOR THE LUVVA MIKE!

SKRULLS CAPTURED SOME MOBSTER BACK IN THE 30'S AS A PET...AND ENDED UP TURNING A WHOLE PLANET TO A THEME PARK BASED ON HIS MEMORIES OF BEING A MOBSTER BACK IN THE BAD OLD DAYS.
AFTER KIRBY
BUT WITH THE SKRULL TECHNOLOGY, THEY HAD THE GIZMOS TO TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL. INSTEAD OF BETTING ON THE PONIES, THEY HAD A GLADIATOR ARENA SETUP WITH THE BEST FIGHTERS FROM ALL OVER THE GALAXY--
--INCLUDING ME!
FORTUNATELY, REED FIGURED OUT HOW TO TRACK [redacted] ACROSS THE UNIVERSE, AND WE LEE A RAID TO FREE BEN AND ALL THE GLADIATORS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE SKRULLS REGROUPED AFTER A DEFEAT LIKE THAT. THIS TIME, WE WILL CRUSH THEIR EMPIRE AND MAKE SURE IT NEVER RECOVERS.
ORORO, THERE ARE FOUR OF US ON A HOSTILE PLANET WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT. WE HAVE NO TRANSPORTATION HOME, AND WE ARE FACING A FOE THAT COULD ACTUALLY CAPTURE OUR FRIEND BEN, ONE OF THE STRONGEST BEINGS IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE.
SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I'M SAYING THE FIGHT STARTS... *NOW!*

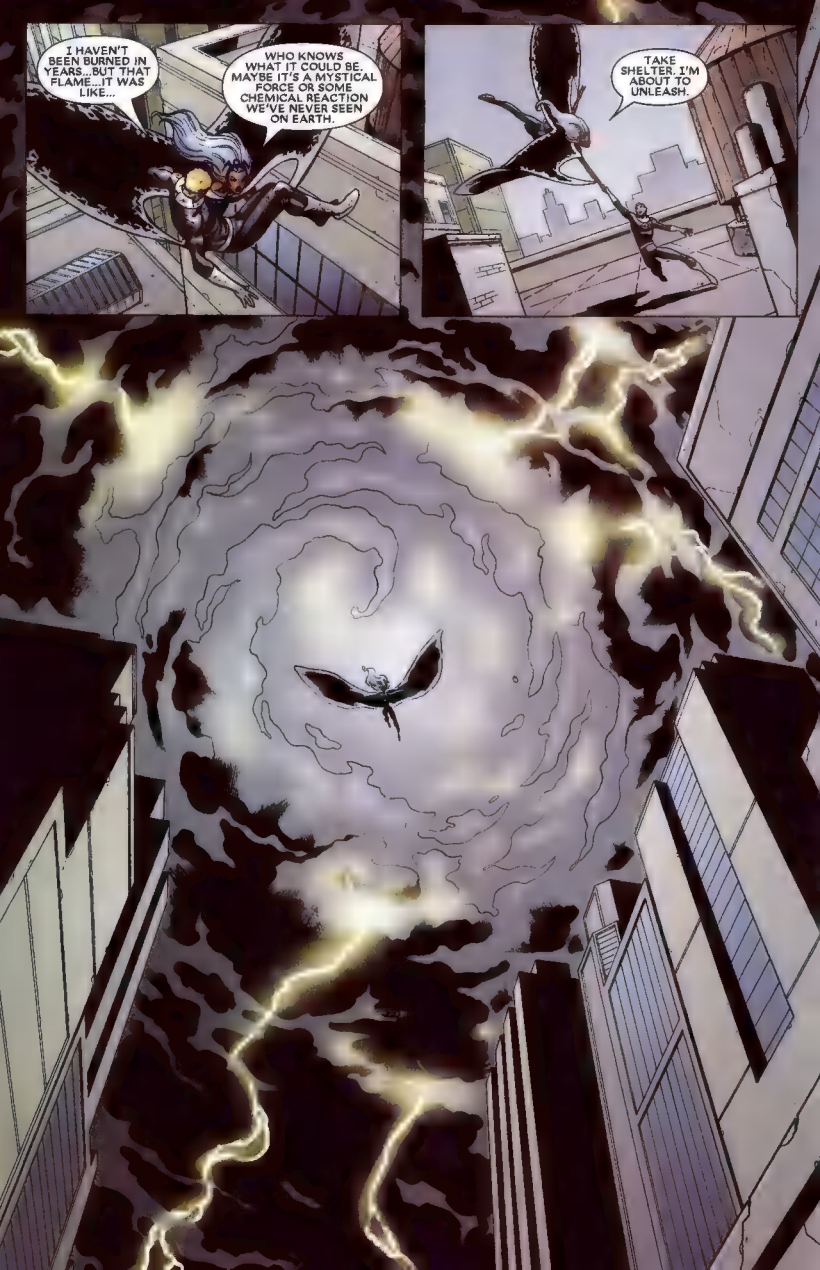
FLAME ON!
SAY IT, BEN...
OH, IT'S CLOBBERING TIME ALRIGHT!

THE X-MEN HAVE AN ATTACK MANEUVER. I BELIEVE IT'S CALLED THE "FASTBALL SPECIAL." ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH IT?
IF YOU GO FOR THAT KIND OF THING.
NO OFFENSE, STORM...
HOLY COW! IT'S A BLACK PANTHER!
DON'T TALK-- SHOOT!
NO. LET'S TALK.
RATATATATATAATATATA

MAN! I FOUGHT MY SHARE OF FLYING DRAGONS... BUT THIS ONE'S QUICK!
FWOOSH
YAAAA!!!!
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF FIRE IS THAT?

TALK? YOU'RE GONNA-- UGH!
WHAM
NEED A LITTLE HELP BALANCING? HERE.
AS I WAS SAYING...CALL OFF YOUR DOGS, I WILL SLIT YOUR THROAT.
DO YER WORST, PUNK!
YOUR CHOICE. I'LL START HERE...
EEEEEEE!!!
THAT GIRLISH SQUEAL UNDERMINES YOUR AUTHORITY... PUNK.

BATTER BATTER SWING!!!!
SLAM
AND IT'S GOOD!!!
SUBMIT TO THE HARNESS NOW, AND SPARE YOURSELF PAIN, SLAVE.
BEEN THERE, WORN THAT. AIN'T GOING BACK.
AND NO MATTER WHAT MY WARDROBE, I'LL NEVER BE A SLAVE.
I ONCE SAID THOSE WORDS.
I USED TO FIGHT IN THE ARENA. I ESCAPED. YOU CAN DO IT, TOO.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW.
KLICK
AND SO IT GOES...


I HAVEN'T BEEN BURNED IN YEARS...BUT THAT FLAME...IT WAS LIKE...
WHO KNOWS WHAT IT COULD BE. MAYBE IT'S A MYSTICAL FORCE OR SOME CHEMICAL REACTION WE'VE NEVER SEEN ON EARTH.
TAKE SHELTER. I'M ABOUT TO UNLEASH.

LEGGO OF THE BOSS OR I'LL--
AAAAIIIIIII!!!
LOUIE? LOUIE!
THE WINDS! IT'S LIKE A TORNADO HIT!
IT'S NOT "LIKE" A TORNADO, IT IS ONE. THE QUESTION IS, WHAT IS GOING TO KILL YOU FIRST--A LIGHTNING STRIKE? FALLING OVER THE SIDE? OR BLOOD LOSS?
NO, LIKE I SAID, YOU'RE ABOUT TO DIE UNLESS YOU END THIS.
I-I-I-I'LL SKIN YOU ALIVE-- ACK!
OH MAN, JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED.
OH NO... BEN!
WHAM
KLUD
DAMN, I CAN'T... STAY LIT!

KEEP FIGHTING... BUT IT DOES NO GOOD. THE HARNESS IS TOO POWERFUL.
YOU'LL NEVER... NEVER...
I ALREADY HAVE.
FZZZAAAT
NICE ONE! I GOT TO GET DOWN THERE AND MELT THAT COLLAR OFF HIM!
KLICK

HOLY SMOKES! THAT'S BIGGIE!
HE'S BLEEDING ALL OVER HIS NICE LEATHER SEATS.
GET TOWELS... THE GOOD ONES. WE'LL COME OUT ALL RIGHT ■ WE CAN HELP...
JEEZ, THE RAIN! I CAN BARELY SEE IN FRONT OF ME.
JUST LOAD THE SLAVE TO THE BACK OF THE TRUCK. LEAVE THE WEATHER REPORT TO EXPERTS.
THANK GOODNESS FOR THESE ANTI-GRAV DISCS. WE'D NEVER LIFT THIS MOOK OTHERWISE.
WHERE'S THE *OTHER GUY*, BOSS?
BOSS?
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO *HIM*?

IT'S A PANTHER ATTACK!
PATHETIC CREATURE. I CONTROL THE WINDS YOU RELY ON TO FLY.
NICE TRY--
FWOOSH
--BUT I RULE THE SKIES.
SLAM
FZAT
FZAT
FZAT

SHOOT TO WOUND, BOYS! WE NEED HER IN THE FLYER TOURNEY!
LEAVE THE AREA, ORORO. I WILL LOOK AFTER BEN AND JOHNNY.
I'M NOT LEAVING YOU... I'M NOT LEAVING ANYONE!
THE ODDS ARE ABOUT TO GET OVERWHELMING. WE CANNOT ALL BE CAPTURED.
THEY WILL SHOOT YOU DOWN! LEAVE NOW.

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU.
YOU CAN FIGHT. BUT YOU CAN'T BEAT ME.
I WILL DEFEAT YOU...AND YOUR ROBOT FRIEND.
WHA--- I CAN'T MOVE!
CRUNCH
NICE FINISH... SLAVE.
WHAK
YOU AND YOUR LITTLE BUDDIES GOT SPUNK. YOU'RE GONNA DO GREAT IN THE ARENA...
...UNTIL YOU DIE.
NEXT: READY TO DIE

NEXT ISSUE

WITH TEAMWORK
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE....

FSE

DCP

THIS FSE SCAN FROM DCP WAS SCANNED AND EDITED IN SECRET!

WE'RE NOT GOING TO SAY WHO WE ARE, BECAUSE IT'S NOT REALLY IMPORTANT.
THE IMPORTANT PART HERE IS THAT YOU HAVE A NICE DCP SCAN ON YOUR SCREEN.
<- LIKE IT? [-] BUY IT! ->